

Korea remain partners dedicated to peace, freedom, democracy, and global stability.

The relationship between the United States and Korea is a comprehensive and dynamic one. We are major trading partners, with investment ties deep among our countries.

However, we have not even come close to realizing the full potential of this relationship. In 2007 our two countries signed a Free Trade Agreement that, by every estimate, will improve the lives of people in both Korea and the United States by creating jobs, reducing prices of products and services, and expanding consumer choices. This agreement when implemented will remove 95 percent of the bilateral tariffs between our countries that are currently holding back what could be tremendous growth for both sides.

Unfortunately, the agreement has not yet been brought to Congress for a vote. I hope that, in the coming months, my colleagues will recognize the economic boost that ratifying this agreement will generate.

As a co-chair of the bipartisan U.S.-Korea Free Trade Working Group, I will be working to ensure that we can meet President Obama's stated goal of being able to resolve outstanding issues by November so that we can once and for all remove this impediment to an increasingly productive economic relationship.

I look forward to a vigorous discussion of the merits of the agreement as ratification would further consolidate the longstanding friendship between the United States and Korea, an alliance forged in battle and sharpened through six decades of business, cultural, and political exchanges.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in remembering the success of the Incheon Landing on its 60th anniversary, saluting the veterans of the Korean War, and recognizing the bright future ahead for our two countries when we can finally realize the mutual benefits of the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement.

FINDINGS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO H. RES. 1493

HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. PETERSON. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1493, I am submitting changes in law that will help achieve deficit reduction by reducing waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement; promoting efficiency and government reform; and controlling spending in the programs within each Committee's jurisdiction.

This year saw significant deficit reduction resulting from crop insurance changes enacted by Congress in the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act, FCEA, of 2008. In that legislation, the Committee included a provision directing the Administration to renegotiate the federal crop insurance program's Standard Reinsurance Agreement, which sets the financial terms and conditions for companies which participate in the program. The fruits of our effort were borne when USDA completed its renegotiation this past June, resulting in a more efficient crop insurance program and net savings, according to the Congressional Budget Office, of almost six billion dollars for deficit reduction.

This six billion dollars represents a seven percent reduction in the crop insurance program's baseline from FY 2011–20, making the Committee on Agriculture the only Committee in the U.S. House of Representatives that has accomplished deficit reduction this year through decreasing mandatory spending for programs under its jurisdiction. If other federal government spending was trimmed by a similar percent reduction and the savings dedicated to deficit reduction, we would reduce the budget deficit by almost three trillion dollars during FY 2011–20.

Federal spending to support production agriculture, according to CBO, represents less than one-half of one percent of all Federal Government spending. With these reductions, I believe agriculture has gone above and beyond any expectation with regard to finding cuts to reduce the deficit. However, this does not mean our programs are completely free of waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement or inefficiency. As Chairman, I can assure you that I will continue to lead the Committee's efforts through investigations, hearings, and general oversight to find other ways to improve further the operation of the government programs under our jurisdiction.

CELEBRATING THE FITZGERALD THEATER'S CENTENNIAL SEASON AND ITS PLACEMENT IN THE NA- TIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the centennial season of the Fitzgerald Theater, located in downtown Saint Paul, Minnesota. On September 18th, 2010, Minnesota Public Radio, which owns the theater, will celebrate the 100th season of "the Fitz," as it is affectionately known, and commemorate its placement on the National Register of Historic Places.

Originally called the Sam S. Schubert Theater when it opened in August 1910, this theater has long served as a cultural center for the many visitors and residents of Saint Paul. In 1910, a young Saint Paul resident named F. Scott Fitzgerald was only 14 years old and yet to author the great American novel, "The Great Gatsby."

Eighty-four years later, another great artist and resident of Saint Paul, Garrison Keillor, led the charge to rename the theater in honor of F. Scott Fitzgerald and his role in American letters. And thus, in 1994, what began as the Schubert was reborn as the Fitzgerald Theater. Now, at 100 years old, the building is the oldest surviving theater space in Saint Paul and is a cultural landmark for the state of Minnesota.

The 1,000-seat theater continues to serve and strengthen regional and national communities as Minnesota Public Radio's largest broadcast studio. The Fitzgerald Theater is also home to the nationally-broadcast radio show, A Prairie Home Companion with Garrison Keillor. More than 100 years after its opening night, the Fitzgerald Theater continues to evolve, while maintaining its commitment to compelling performances, live radio

shows, and a legacy of significant literary programming.

Without any doubt, the Fitzgerald Theater has contributed a century's worth of memories, ideas, and insights to Saint Paul and the national cultural and literary community. The Fitzgerald will thrive into the 21st century, playing a critical role for future generations in bringing ideas and information in the areas of news, culture, literature, and music to a broad audience, both in Saint Paul, Minnesota and nationwide.

Madam Speaker, please join me in rising to honor the centennial season of the Fitzgerald Theater and its contributions to the rich history and culture of the city of Saint Paul and the state of Minnesota.

IN MEMORY OF FRED SHAW

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness I rise today to mourn the passing of my friend Fred Shaw. A stand-out student in China, Fred first came to the United States seeking an advanced degree in Civil Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He moved to the Twin Cities in 1947 to complete a Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota.

Fred made his first mark on the Minnesota business community in 1974 when he co-founded the Shaw-Lundquist Contracting firm, which stands presently as one of the most prominent general contractors in Minnesota and is the largest Asian-American-owned contractor in the nation. The motto of his company, "Be honest, fair, and reliable and treat people right," is a lesson in which everyone can find truth. In addition to his business endeavors, Fred played a pivotal role in the advancement of minorities in business having been a founding member of the National Association of Minority Contractors (NAMC) of Minnesota and the Chinese American Business Association. Fred's dedication and tireless work will continue to inspire minority groups in the business community for years to come.

Furthermore, Fred will be remembered as a great supporter of international education. He and his wife Jennie established a scholarship with the University of Minnesota China Center which helps send students to China for academic study.

Madam Speaker, Minnesota has lost a true trailblazer in the promotion of minority businesses with the passing of Fred Shaw.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF JOHN THOMAS SABOL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of John Thomas Sabol, devoted husband, father, grandfather, friend and United States veteran. Mr. Sabol lived life with great joy and an unwavering dedication to his family, community and country.